



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 3, 2023
<https://bis.doc.gov>

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs
OCPA@bis.doc.gov

BIS DEPLOYS U.S. INFLUENZA VACCINE INDUSTRIAL BASE ASSESSMENT

WASHINGTON, DC.--The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), Office of Technology Evaluation (OTE), in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), is conducting a comprehensive assessment of the U.S. Influenza Vaccine Industrial Base (IVIB).

The principal goal of the assessment and accompanying survey is to gain a better understanding of the IVIB supply chain network. The data collected will help identify the structure and interdependencies of organizations that support the IVIB. This effort will enable BARDA to understand and respond to supply chain deficiencies and disruptions related to production capabilities, transportation and logistics, research and development, foreign sourcing and dependencies, cyber security incidents, critical materials, and other challenges. The resulting analysis will allow industry representatives and government policy officials to better monitor trends, benchmark industry performance, and raise issues of concern.

For the purposes of this study, the IVIB supply chain network includes influenza vaccine manufacturers and suppliers of raw materials, active pharmaceutical ingredients, and other consumables required to manufacture the influenza vaccine and related products.

FAQs

Q. Under what authority does the Bureau of Industry and Security conduct this survey?

A. BIS has authority under Section 705 of Defense Production Act of 1950 (DPA) (50 U.S.C. App. Sec. 4555), as amended, to conduct research and analysis of critical technologies and industrial sectors to advance U.S. national security and economic competitiveness. BIS uses industry-specific surveys to obtain production, R&D, export control, employment, and other relevant data to inform U.S. Government policies and proposals.

Q. Who requested the assessment?

A. The assessment was requested by BARDA, which is a program office within the Administration for Strategic Preparedness & Response, which is an operating division within HHS.

Q. Is this an annual/repeated collection?

A. This assessment is a one-time information collection performed by OTE, though BIS has performed similar assessments in the past and may be tasked to carry out similar assessments in the future.

Q. Who is BARDA?

A. BARDA, located within the Office of the Administration for Strategic Preparedness & Response in HHS, promotes the advancement of necessary vaccines, drugs, therapies, and diagnostic tools for public health medical emergencies such as chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear accidents, incidents and attacks, pandemic influenza, and emerging infectious diseases.

Q. What will the information from the assessment be used for?

A. The information collected will assist the U.S. government in assessing the health and competitiveness of the influenza vaccine supply chain network and to ensure visibility into the organizations supporting the U.S. influenza vaccine industrial base. The survey results will be incorporated into a comprehensive report that presents the current state of the influenza vaccine industrial base, including existing supply chain vulnerabilities, production capacities, and emergency response capabilities. Additionally, the report will give recommendations to help improve the resiliency of the influenza vaccine supply chain in the face of future public health emergencies.

Q. What type of data will the assessment produce?

A. The survey will collect information related to production capabilities, capacity utilization, product assortment, customers, supply chain disruptions, employment information, transportation and logistics, research and development, as well as other variables. The resulting report will provide the U.S. government with detailed influenza vaccine industry information that is otherwise not publicly available and necessary to effectively protect and strengthen the U.S. influenza vaccine supply chain.

Q. Has BIS conducted similar studies in the past?

A. Yes. Since 1986 BIS has conducted over 60 assessments and 150 surveys on a wide range of topics, including shipbuilding, strategic materials, space and aeronautics, rocket propulsion, munitions, and semi-conductors, among others. To view public versions of previous BIS reports and surveys, please visit our website at <https://www.bis.doc.gov/dib>.

Q. Will the findings from this assessment be publicly available?

A. A public version of the assessment report will be posted on our website. To safeguard the domestic influenza vaccine supply chain and ensure the integrity of respondent information, the assessment report will contain data only in aggregate form. Data provided by industry is deemed business confidential under the DPA and can be withheld from release under the Freedom of Information Act.

###